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BOROUGH OF HEDON

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MINISTRY OF HEALTH
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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1953

BOROUGH OF HEDON

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL, 1953/54

The Mayor - Alderman J. J. WARN, J.P.

Alderman J.E. NORRISON

Alderman W.HALES

Councillor G. BARR
Councillor E. CRANE
Councillor H. DOBSON
Councillor F. WYNN GIBSON
Councillor K. Gray

Councillor N. Green
Councillor J.M. Hunter
Councillor G.J. Milner
Councillor Mrs. Moody

OFFICIALS

Town Clerk:

T.E. STANLEY

Medical Officer of Health:

Wm. FERGUSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Borough Treasurer:

J.H. SAVIDGE, A.I.M.T.A.

Borough Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector:

H. ROPER SPENCER, F.I.A.A. & S.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1953.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Hedon.

Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my annual report upon the Health Services of the Borough of Hedon for 1953.

The following are the principal statistical rates for the year -

Death rate	-	9.91
Birth rate	-	20.71
Still birth rate	-	49.0
Infant Mortality rate	-	51.0

Heart and Circulatory disease account for 11 out of the total of 26 deaths. These figures compare favourably with previous years.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES - Only 3 cases of infectious diseases were notified as occurring within the Borough during 1953, but it is very unlikely that this gives a true picture of the incidence of infectious disease.

CANCER - In 1953 the Ministry of Health gave its blessing to Cancer Education Campaigns throughout the country. A campaign of this type has now been going on in the East Riding for some twelve months and various local committees have been set up to help to organise this work. The campaign has so far consisted of lectures given by various doctors to organised groups in the area. In addition leaflets and other propaganda material have been circulated.

At this stage it is not possible to ascertain the value of this campaign to teach the general public the early symptoms and signs of cancer. There is considerable difference of opinion between medical men on this subject as it is felt by some that lectures on cancer may create a cancer phobia among susceptible members of the general public. These lectures have been well received by the audiences, but it must be realised that these are self selected, as those who do not wish to listen to lectures on cancer do not attend. It is, therefore, not possible to relate the reaction of these audiences to that of the general population.

HOUSING AND SANITATION - A great deal of preparatory work has been done on the proposed new sewage scheme for the Borough which is to be carried out in association with the Holderness Rural District. When completed this scheme should go a considerable way to improving the general sanitary circumstances of the Borough and it will enable the Council to expedite the conversion of pail closets, etc. to a water carriage system.

It was decided in principal to undertake a complete housing survey of the Borough during the next twelve months, this survey will be a detailed one giving an up-to-date picture of housing conditions, overcrowding, and general sanitation in the area, from which it is hoped to arrange a future programme for demolition

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and re-development. This will include the area known as Bond's Estate which required general re-development and planning in order to conform with present day standards of hygiene and sanitation. Of the 120 dwellings in this area only 5 are connected to sewers, 69 have cess pits and the remainder have no satisfactory sewage disposal system. A number of these cess pits are situated much too near the dwelling houses.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES -

HOUSING - The estimated number of inhabitad houses in the Borough is 730. There were 22 houses erected by the Council and 5 by private enterprise during 1953. Since the War ended a total of 120 houses have been erected by the Council whilst 28 houses have been erected by private enterprise. One house was in course of erection at the end of the year and there were 7 applicants on the Council's Housing Waiting List.

During the year 1953, 19 visits were made to 13 houses inspected for defects. Two houses were found to be partially unfit for human habitation, and 2 families living in overcrowded conditions were rehoused.

CLOSETS -	No. of privies in the District	none
	No. of pail closets	212
	No. of conversions (a) to water carriage	7
	(b) privies to pails	none

WATER SUPPLY - No extensions have been made to the existing supply during the year.

MILK - The County Council's sampling officers took one sample of milk for biological examination from a producer in the Borough and this was reported as satisfactory.

Finally, I would like to express my appreciation and thanks for the help and courtesy of the Chairman and members of the Health Committee, the Sanitary Inspector's Department, and other Officials during the past year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

WM. FERGUSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

AUGUST, 1954.

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W. THOMSON,

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VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1953 AND THE FOUR PREVIOUS YEARS

Year	Estimated Population	Live birth rate per 1,000 popul'n.	Still birth rate per 1,000 total births.	Death rate per 1,000 population.
1953	2,071	20.71 +	49.00 +	9.91 +
1952	2,011	23.52 +	18.37 +	10.61 +
1951	1,994	24.28 +	50.43 +	13.07 +
1950	1,942	23.43 +	0.00	12.86 +
1949	1,810	12.68	30.3	14.36

+ Corrected by comparative rate.

		Males	Females	Total
LIVE BIRTHS	Legitimate	15	23	38
	Illegitimate	1	-	1
STILLBIRTHS		1	1	2
DEATHS		12	14	26
INFANT MORTALITY		2	-	2

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1953

Causes of Death	Males	Females	Total
Deaths from all causes	12	14	26
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasms of lungs and bronchus	1	-	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	-	1	1
Diabetes	-	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	2	1	3
Coronary disease and angina	-	1	1
Hypertension with heart disease	1	-	1
Other heart disease	-	3	3
Other circulatory disease	-	3	3
Pneumonia	1	-	1
Bronchitis	1	1	2
Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea	1	-	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	1	4
Motor vehicle accidents	1	-	1
All other accidents	-	1	1

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF DEATHS

Under 1 year of age	2
Between 1 and 5 years of age	1
Between 15 and 25 years of age	1
Between 25 and 45 years of age	3
Between 45 and 65 years of age	3
65 years of age and over	16
TOTAL	26

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INFECTIOUS DISEASES

During 1953, 3 cases of infectious diseases were notified and the following table shows the age distribution of these diseases :-

Disease	Under 1	1 - 2	3 - 4	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 & over	TOTAL
Measles	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Whooping Cough	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	1	-	-	1

Attack Rate of (Poliomyelitis, Measles and Whooping Cough) (rates per 1,000 Home Population)

Disease	England & Wales	160 Smaller Towns	Hedon Borough
Measles	12.36	12.32	0.48
Whooping Cough	3.58	3.38	0.48
Poliomyelitis	0.11	0.10	0.48

TUBERCULOSIS

During 1953, 1 new case of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis was notified. This referred to a male aged 21 years.

The following table shows the additions to and removals from the register during the year :-

	Males		Females		
	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.	TOTAL
No. of cases on register at 31st December, 1952	4	2	11	1	18
Cases added to the register :-					
(a) Notified for the first time	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Brought to notice otherwise than by formal notification	-	1	-	-	1
Removed from register on account of death, change of address &c.	-	-	1	-	1
No. of cases remaining on register at 31st December, 1953.	4	3	10	1	18

IMMUNISATION

During the year 1953, the number of children immunised against Diphtheria was as follows :-

Under 5 years of age	-	31
Between 5 and 15 years of age	-	10
Boosters (all ages)	-	43

In addition, 5 children under the age of 5 years were immunised against Diphtheria and Whooping Cough.

VACCINATION

The number of persons vaccinated or re-vaccinated was as follows :-

	Under 1	1 - 4	5 - 14	15 & over	TOTAL
Number vaccinated	18	4	4	-	26
Number re-vaccinated	-	-	5	8	13

As in previous years, the number of children vaccinated remains comparatively small, with the result that an increased proportion of the population is susceptible to smallpox. As the district is adjacent to a large port the possibility of smallpox being introduced into the community is always present, and it is, therefore, the duty of parents and doctors to ensure that as many children as possible are vaccinated in infancy.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

CHILD WELFARE CLINIC

A Child Welfare Clinic was held monthly at the Allison Hall and was well attebded by the mothers and children of the Borough.

The number of children who attended the clinic and the number of attendances made by them during the year were as follows :-

Number of children who attended during the year and those who were born in :-			Attendances	
1953	1952	1946-1951	Total	Avge. per Session
31	36	27	485	37

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

HOSPITALS

Infectious disease cases are sent to the Isolation Hospitals at Cottingham, Bridlington or York.

Most maternity cases are admitted to the Westwood Maternity Hospital, Beverley, or the Seacroft Maternity Home, Withernsea.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Specimens for pathological examination are sent to the Royal Infirmary, whereas bacteriological and biological examinations of milk, water, and ice cream are carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service, both at Hull.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

The conveyance of all cases (including infectious disease) is the responsibility of the County Council as the Local Health Authority.

CLINICS

Tuberculosis - A clinic is held weekly at Coltman Street, Hull.

Venereal Disease - A clinic is held daily at the Clinic, Mill Street, Hull.

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